GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2582
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
GORKHA HILL COUNCIL BILL
Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a request from Darjeeling Region regarding `Gorkha Hill Council Bill`;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI MANIKRAO H. GAVIT)

(a) to (c): An 'In Principle' Memorandum of Settlement (MOS) was signed on 06.12.2005 between the Government of West Bengal and Shri Subash Ghisingh, the then caretaker Administrator, Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council for creating an autonomous self governing Council under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution for the hill areas of Darjeeling District in the State of West Bengal following due consultative, legislative and constitutional processes by the State and Central Governments. In pursuance of the MOS, two Bills, namely, the Constitution (One Hundred and Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2007 and the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2007 were introduced by the Government in the Lok Sabha on 30.11.2007 for creation of a new Council, viz., Gorkha Hill Council, Darjeeling under the Sixth Schedule. The Bills were referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination. The Committee has presented its report on 28.02.2008. The matter is pending.